

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2-4, 6, 16, 17, 25, 27, 29, 33-35, 37, 42-44, and 46 without prejudice, amend claims 1, 22-24, 31, 40, and 41 as set forth below. All the claims are reproduced below, with changes in the amended claims shown by underlining (for added matter) and strikethrough (for deleted matter).

1. (Currently amended) A combination fuel cell and ion pump comprising:  
an electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, a cathode outlet for exhausting at least one of oxidant and at least one of purified oxygen and purified hydrogen, and a first electrical connector and a second electrical connector, said electrochemical cell comprising a solid oxide electrochemical cell; and  
a controller for applying an electrical load to said first and said second electrical connectors wherein said electrochemical cell acts as a fuel cell to generate electricity, and applying an electrical potential to said first and said second electrical connectors wherein said electrochemical cell acts as at least one of a hydrogen pump to purify hydrogen and an oxygen pump to purify oxygen.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The combination fuel cell and ion pump of claim 1 wherein the electrochemical cell comprises a plurality of electrochemical cells.
6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The combination fuel cell and ion pump of claim 1 further comprising a first valve attached to said anode inlet for controlling fuel to said electrochemical cell and a second valve attached to said cathode outlet for exhausting at least one of oxidant and purified oxygen from said electrochemical cell.

8. (Original) The combination fuel cell and ion pump of claim 7 wherein said second valve is operable to exhaust oxidant from said electrochemical cell in a first direction and exhaust purified oxygen from said electrochemical cell in a second direction different from said first direction.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump comprising:  
a first electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, a cathode outlet for exhausting oxidant, a purified hydrogen outlet for discharging purified hydrogen, and a first electrical connector and a second electrical connector;  
a second electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, a cathode outlet for exhausting at least one of oxidant and purified hydrogen, and a first electrical connector and a second electrical connector; and  
a valve disposed between said first electrochemical cell and said second electrochemical cell, said valve comprising a first passageway for transferring fuel from said first electrochemical cell to said second electrochemical cell, a second passageway for transferring exhaust fuel from said second electrochemical cell to said first electrochemical cell, a third passageway for controlling transfer of oxidant from said first electrochemical cell to said second electrochemical cell, a fourth passageway for controlling transfer of exhaust oxidant from said second electrochemical cell to said first electrochemical cell, and a fifth passageway for controlling transfer of purified hydrogen from said second electrochemical cell to said purified hydrogen outlet.

11. (Original) The combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10 further comprising a controller for applying an electrical load to said electrical contacts of said first and said second electrochemical cells for generating electricity.
12. (Original) The combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10 further comprising a controller for applying an electrical load to said electrical contacts of said first electrochemical cell for generating electricity, and applying an electrical potential to said electrical contacts of said second electrochemical cell for purifying hydrogen.
13. (Original) The combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10 wherein said valve comprises a moveable portion comprising said third passageway, said fourth passageway, and said fifth passageway, said moveable portion being moveable between a first position and a second position.
14. (Original) The combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10 wherein said first and said second electrochemical cells comprise a plurality of electrochemical cells.
15. (Original) The combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10 wherein said first and said second electrochemical cells comprise a PEM electrochemical cell.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Original) An oxygen infrastructure system comprising:
  - a combination fuel cell and ion pump of claim 1;
  - a storage tank for storing purified oxygen from said combination fuel cell and ion pump; and
  - a reformer for supplying fuel to said combination fuel cell and ion pump.

19. (Original) The oxygen fuel infrastructure system of claim 18 further comprising a battery for storing electrical energy from said combination fuel cell and ion pump.

20. (Original) A hydrogen fuel infrastructure system comprising:  
a combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump of claim 10;  
a storage tank for storing purified hydrogen from said combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump; and  
a reformer for supplying fuel to said combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump.

21. (Original) The hydrogen fuel infrastructure system of claim 20 further comprising a battery for storing electrical energy from said combination fuel cell and hydrogen pump.

22. (Currently amended) A method for generating electricity and purifying at least one of hydrogen and oxygen, the method comprising:  
providing an electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, and a cathode outlet for exhausting at least one of oxidant and at least one of purified hydrogen and purified oxygen, said electrochemical cell comprising a solid oxide electrochemical cell; and  
operating the electrochemical cell to generate electricity; and  
and at least one of operating the electrochemical cell to purify hydrogen and purify oxygen.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the operating the electrochemical cell to generate electricity comprises applying an electrical load to the electrochemical cell to generate electricity.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the operating the electrochemical cell to purify oxygen comprises applying an electrical potential to the electrochemical cell to purify at least one of hydrogen and oxygen.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the operating comprises blocking fuel to said anode inlet and applying an electrical potential to the electrochemical cell to purify oxygen.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the electrochemical cell comprises a plurality of electrochemical cells.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) An oxygen infrastructure system comprising:  
a combination fuel cell and ion pump comprising:  
an electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, a cathode outlet for exhausting oxidant and at least one of purified oxygen and purified hydrogen, and a first electrical connector and a second electrical connector; and  
a controller for applying an electrical load to said first and said second electrical connectors wherein said electrochemical cell acts as a fuel cell to generate electricity, and applying an electrical potential to said first and said second electrical connectors wherein said electrochemical cell acts as at least one

of a hydrogen pump to purify hydrogen and an oxygen pump to purify oxygen;  
a storage tank for storing purified oxygen from said combination fuel cell and ion pump; and  
a reformer for supplying fuel to said combination fuel cell and ion pump.

32. (Previously presented) The oxygen infrastructure system of claim 31 further comprising a battery for storing electrical energy from said combination fuel cell and ion pump.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) The oxygen infrastructure system of claim 31 wherein the electrochemical cell comprises a plurality of electrochemical cells.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously presented) The oxygen infrastructure system of claim 31 further comprising a first valve attached to said anode inlet for controlling fuel to said electrochemical cell and a second valve attached to said cathode outlet for exhausting at least one of oxidant and purified oxygen from said electrochemical cell.

39. (Previously presented) The oxygen infrastructure system of claim 38 wherein said second valve is operable to exhaust oxidant from said electrochemical cell in a first direction and exhaust purified oxygen from said electrochemical cell in a second direction different from said first direction.

40. (Currently amended) A method for generating electricity and purifying at least one of hydrogen and oxygen, the method comprising:  
providing an electrochemical cell comprising an anode inlet for receiving fuel, an anode outlet for exhausting fuel, a cathode inlet for receiving oxidant, and a cathode outlet for exhausting oxidant and at least one of purified hydrogen and purified oxygen;

operating the electrochemical cell to generate electricity and at least one of purify hydrogen and;

operating the electrochemical cell to purify oxygen; and

wherein the operating the electrochemical cell to purify oxygen

comprises blocking fuel to said anode inlet and applying an electrical potential to the electrochemical cell to purify oxygen.

41. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40 wherein the operating the electrochemical cell to generate electricity comprises applying an electrical load to the electrochemical cell to generate electricity.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the electrochemical cell comprises a plurality of electrochemical cells.

46. (Canceled)

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